



Attorney Docket No. 051481-5065

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Craig Andrew WELDON et al.) Confirmation No.: 1599
)
Application No.: 09/931,373) Group Art Unit: 3753
)
Filed: August 17, 2001) Examiner: Hepperle, S.
)
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD INCLUDING)
A FUEL TANK ISOLATION VALVE)

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.104 (e)

Sir:

In response to the examiner's statement of reasons for allowance in the final Office Action dated 12 January 2004, the following comments are submitted.

Applicants do not believe that the Statement of Reasons for Allowance in this case is warranted/proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(e) and M.P.E.P 1302.14.

While Applicant believes that the claims are allowable and patentably distinguish over the prior art, Applicant does not acquiesce that patentability resides in each feature, exactly as expressed in the claims, nor that each and every feature is required for patentability. And, Applicants submit that patentability is based on the claimed invention as a whole, and not solely on one or more particular features recited in the allowed claims.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Date: 8 July 2004

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